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6 October 1953)

EXTRACT FROM

I N T E L L I G E N C E   A D V I S O R Y   C O M M I T T E E

Minutes of Meeting Held in Director's  
Conference Room, [REDACTED]  
Central Intelligence Agency, on 6 October 1953

25X1A

Director of Central Intelligence  
Allen W. Dulles  
Presiding

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. W. Park Armstrong, Special Assistant, Intelligence,  
Department of State  
Major General Richard C. Partridge, Assistant Chief of  
Staff, G-2, Department of the Army  
Rear Admiral Carl F. Espe, Director of Naval Intelligence,  
Department of the Navy  
Major General John A. Sanford, Director of Intelligence,  
Headquarters, United States Air Force  
Dr. Charles H. Reichardt, Atomic Energy Commission  
Representative to the IAC  
Brigadier General Edward H. Porter, Deputy Director for  
Intelligence, The Joint Staff  
Mr. Meffert W. Kuhrtz, acting for Assistant to the Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

ALSO PRESENT

Lt. General Charles P. Cabell, Central Intelligence Agency  
Mr. Robert Amory, Jr., Central Intelligence Agency  
Dr. Sherman Kent, Central Intelligence Agency  
Dr. H. Marshall Chadwell, Central Intelligence Agency  
Mr. H. D. Sheldon, Central Intelligence Agency  
Mr. Otto E. Guthe, Central Intelligence Agency

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Mr. James Q. Reber, Central Intelligence Agency  
[REDACTED] Central Intelligence Agency  
[REDACTED] Central Intelligence Agency  
[REDACTED] Central Intelligence Agency  
[REDACTED] Central Intelligence Agency  
[REDACTED] Central Intelligence Agency

Mr. William C. Trueheart, Department of State  
Mr. Allan Evans, Department of State  
Brigadier General John M. Willems, Department of the Army  
Lt. Colonel T. C. Anderson, Department of the Army  
Dr. Samuel McKee, Department of the Army  
Captain Allan L. Reed, USN, Department of the Navy  
Captain K. C. Hurd, USN, Department of the Navy  
Colonel Donald H. Ainsworth, United States Air Force  
Colonel John J. Morrow, United States Air Force  
Colonel Robert Totten, United States Air Force  
Colonel Charles F. Gillis, United States Air Force  
Colonel George E. Perry, United States Air Force  
Captain E. T. Layton, USN, The Joint Staff  
Colonel Samuel M. Lansing, The Joint Staff

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[REDACTED]  
Secretary

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Watch Committee  
Indications Center

3. Action: Agreed to form a special committee to conduct a thorough and prompt review of the watch process and prepare recommendations for the IAC and, ultimately, the NSC. The committee will consider as an initial step a paper to be prepared and circulated by CIA and thereafter such other papers, including the subject proposal tabled by General Willems, as the agencies submit. The agencies are to nominate a highly placed officer to Mr. Huntington Sheldon, CIA/OCI, who will call the first meeting, at which time the committee will select a chairman and adopt its procedures.

4. Discussion: The DCI stated that he felt that the existing Watch Committee was a great improvement over the situation prior to its creation, but that developments over the past years (including the atomic progress of the USSR, the increasing problem of continental defense, and the concurrent growth in importance of economic and political factors) made it desirable to reexamine the scope and limitations of the watch process, how that process can best function, and what major problems are involved. It was the sense of the meeting that such a reexamination was desirable.

General Samford said that the watching process is a most difficult matter, and he was doubtful that we had even accurately defined the problem. It seemed to him, he said, that since the watching process inevitably transcends the ability of any one agency or of the military services, the broad leadership of the DCI was required. General Porter agreed that the leadership of CIA was needed in this important intelligence function. Mr. Dulles stated that he had no preconceived notions regarding the outcome of the special committee but felt that General Samford's remarks should be fully considered, along with other ideas, by that committee.

With respect to graphical or mathematical processing of indications, it was believed that these should be explored, but the danger of stressing such methods to the exclusion of analytical appraisal of the indicators and their implications was pointed out.

General Cabell emphasized that a distinction must be preserved between the process of watching and the process of estimating, and that, to assure that this distinction is maintained, clear terms-of-reference and procedures must be provided the watch mechanism.

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